

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A speaker terminal, comprising:

one or more plug loading ~~slot having such a mode that the~~ slots each having a front end of which opens into a substantially same sectional shape as a ~~right~~ sectional contour of a plug for speaker cables to be inserted ~~to define the right sectional shape of an opening;~~

an engaging projection for latching and supporting an engaging portion of an engaging lever of a plug to be inserted and that is disposed at the front end of an opening edge in said respective plug loading slots; and

contact pieces ~~in terminals~~ of terminals of positive and negative poles for speakers being disposed on ~~the inmost~~ an inmost recessed wall surface of said plug loading slots so as to be horizontal with respect to the front end of said opening;

wherein an opening wall of said front end ~~opening portion~~ of said plug loading slot engages and supports ~~an engaging~~ the engaging portion of ~~an engaging~~ the engaging lever of the plug to be inserted.

5. (Currently Amended) A speaker terminal according to claim 4 wherein extreme ends of contact pieces ~~in terminals~~ of terminals of positive and negative poles are disposed with a difference in their distances from the front end of the opening in said plug loading slots.

6. (Currently Amended) A speaker terminal according to claim 4, comprising at least two plug loading slots, wherein said ~~respective~~ plug loading slots ~~for right and left channels~~ are disposed ~~such that both the plug loading slots are~~ in symmetrical disposition.

7. (Original) A speaker terminal according to claim 4 wherein front external surfaces of said plug loading slots for respective channels are colored separately.

8. (Previously Presented) A speaker terminal according to claim 4 wherein a shield plate is disposed in the front surface thereof except for each of said plug loading slots.